

What is claimed is:

1. A method for routing Internet-type messages from a computer workstation to a digital telephone having a display, said method comprising:

5 a) coupling the computer workstation to a TCP/IP network;

b) coupling the digital telephone to the TCP/IP network;

10 c) providing the computer workstation with a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins; and

15 d) providing custom messaging plug-ins for the browser program which allow the digital telephone to log on to the computer workstation and which forward messages to the digital telephone logged on to the workstation.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the digital telephone and the computer workstation are directly coupled to said TCP/IP network.

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3. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the TCP/IP network is the Internet.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein:

25 the TCP/IP network is a LAN.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:

e) coupling the computer workstation is coupled to the Internet.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP network via a PBX network coupled to a server computer coupled to the TCP/IP network.

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7. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP network via the PSTN coupled to a PBX network coupled to the TCP/IP network.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP network via a wireless connection to a PBX network coupled to the TCP/IP network.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP network via a wireless connection to the PSTN to a PBX network coupled to the TCP/IP network.

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10. An apparatus for routing Internet-type messages from a computer workstation to a digital telephone having a display, said method comprising:

a) a computer workstation coupled to a TCP/IP network;

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b) a digital telephone coupled to the TCP/IP network;

c) a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins installed on said computer workstation; and

d) at least one custom messaging program appearing as a plug-in to the browser program, said custom messaging program allowing said digital telephone to log on to said computer workstation and said custom messaging program forwarding messages to said digital telephone once it has logged on to said workstation.

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11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

said digital telephone and said computer workstation are directly coupled to said TCP/IP network.

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12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
the TCP/IP network is the Internet.

5 13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
the TCP/IP network is a LAN.

10 14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:  
said computer workstation is coupled to the  
Internet.

15 15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
said digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP  
network via a PBX network coupled to a server computer  
coupled to the TCP/IP network.

20 16. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
said digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP  
network via the PSTN coupled to a PBX network coupled  
to the TCP/IP network.

25 17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
said digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP  
network via a wireless connection to a PBX network  
coupled to the TCP/IP network.

30 18. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
said digital telephone is coupled to the TCP/IP  
network via a wireless connection to the PSTN to a PBX  
network coupled to the TCP/IP network.